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TO: Supervisor Patent Examiner  
Eileen D. Lillis  
Art Unit 3652

FROM: Richard L. Additon

COMPANY  
USPTO

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RE: Application No.: 10/075,857  
Filed: February 14, 2002  
Confirmation No.: 9430

YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:

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☐ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

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NOTES/COMMENTS:

**Please find attached a Status Letter with respect to the above-referenced Application.**

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 25 2006

Appl. No. : 10/075,857 (Confirmation No. 9430)  
Applicants : Kenneth Fred Bailey *et al.*  
Filed : February 14, 2002  
Art Unit : 3652  
Examiner : Lillis, Eileen Dunn Date: January 25, 2006  
Docket No. : 4148.4  
Customer No. : 21176

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS LETTER

Sir:

On May 18, 2005, Applicants filed a Reply and Amendment in the above-referenced application. The Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) database indicates that this Reply and Amendment has now been forwarded to Supervisory Patent Examiner Lillis. Applicants respectfully ask that Supervisory Patent Examiner Lillis (or her designated succeeding examiner) now expedite further examination of this application.

Applicants recognize that Examiner Johnson's retirement appears to have delayed the Office's examination of this application. In view of this circumstance and considering the nearly four-year pendency of this application, Applicants would welcome the opportunity to interview this case as is necessary to facilitate prompt allowance of the elected claims (*i.e.*, Claims 1-41 and 47-60).

That said, Applicants respectfully assert that the aforementioned May 18, 2005, Reply and Amendment fully demonstrates that elected Claims 1-41 and 47-60 are in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, Applicants again ask that the Office kindly pass elected Claims 1-41 and 47-60 to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Additon  
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PTO/SB/87 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0851-0031

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Date

*Angelika Plyler*

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Angelika Plyler

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List of documents submitted in this facsimile transmission for patent application Ser. No.: 10/075,857, filed February 14, 2002:

1) Status Letter

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